

Amendment to the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended). A tire having at least one component, the component comprising a rubber composition containing a filler, comprising (a) 100 parts by weight of at least one rubber containing olefinic unsaturation, (b) 1 to 250 phr of a filler, and (c) ~~0.05 to 5.0~~ 0.1 to 1.5 phr of zinc oxide particles having a diameter of less than ~~20~~ 12 nanometers.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Currently amended) ~~The rubber composition~~ A tire according to claim 1, ~~characterized in that wherein~~ said filler comprises primary particles of silica particles having a diameter in a range of 5 to 25 nanometers which form at least partially clusters or aggregates having a diameter in a range of from 40 nanometers to 500 nanometers.
5. (Currently Amended) ~~The rubber composition~~ A tire according to of claim 1 wherein said rubber containing olefinic unsaturation is selected from the group consisting of natural rubber, neoprene, polyisoprene, butyl rubber, halobutyl rubber, polybutadiene, styrene-butadiene copolymer, styrene/isoprene/butadiene rubber, methyl methacrylate-butadiene copolymer, isoprene-styrene copolymer, methyl methacrylate-isoprene copolymer, acrylonitrile-isoprene copolymer, acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymer, EPDM, silicon-coupled star-branched polymers, tin-coupled star-branched polymers and mixtures thereof.
6. (Currently Amended) ~~The rubber composition~~ A tire according to claim 1, comprising at least one additional diene-based elastomer.
7. (Currently Amended) A tire comprising a sulfur-vulcanized rubber composition which is prepared by heating ~~the composition of any of the claims 1 to 6~~ the sulfur-vulcanized rubber composition to a temperature ranging from 100°C to 200°C in the presence of a sulfur-vulcanizing agent, the sulfur-vulcanized rubber composition comprising:
 - (a) 100 parts by weight of at least one rubber containing olefinic saturation,
 - (b) 1 to 250 phr of a filler, and

(c) 0.1 to 1.5 phr of zinc oxide particles having a mean diameter of less than 12 nanometers.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) A method of processing a rubber composition ~~containing a filler, comprising the steps of mixing~~ (a) ~~100 parts by weight of at least one rubber containing olefinic unsaturation with~~ (b) ~~a mixture comprising~~ mixing 1 to 250 phr of a filler and 0.05 to 5.0 0.1 to 1.5 phr of zinc oxide particles having a diameter of less than 20 12 nanometers to form a first mixture; and (b) mixing the first mixture with 100 parts by weight of at least one rubber containing olefinic unsaturation.

12. (Currently amended) A method of processing a rubber composition ~~containing a filler comprising mixing the steps of~~ (a) ~~100 parts by weight of at least one rubber containing olefinic unsaturation, (b) 1 to 250 phr of a filler and (c) a mixture of 0.05 to 5.0~~ mixing 0.1 to 1.5 phr of zinc oxide particles having a diameter of less than 20 12 nanometers with a processing additive to form a first mixture; and (b) mixing the first mixture with with a second mixture comprising from 1 to 250 phr of a filler and 100 parts by weight of at least one rubber containing olefinic unsaturation.

13. (Currently amended) A method of processing a rubber composition ~~containing a filler, comprising mixing the steps of~~ (a) ~~100 parts by weight of at least one rubber containing olefinic unsaturation, (b) 1 to 250 phr of a filler and (c) preparing a masterbatch comprising 0.05 to 5.0~~ 0.1 to 1.5 phr of zinc oxide particles having a mean diameter of less than 20 12 nanometers and at least one polymer; and (b) mixing the masterbatch with a mixture comprising 100 parts by weight of at least one rubber containing olefinic unsaturation and 1 to 250 phr of a filler.

14. (Cancelled).

15. (Original) The method of claim ~~11~~ 12 wherein the processing additive comprises an oil, a wax, a fatty acid or a resin.

16. (Original) The method of claim 11, ~~12 or 13~~, wherein said rubber composition is thermomechanically mixed in step (b) at a rubber temperature in a range of from 140°C to 190°C for a mixing time of from 1 to 20 minutes.

17. (New) The method of claim 12, wherein said rubber composition is thermomechanically mixed in step (b) at a rubber temperature in a range of from 140°C to 190°C for a mixing time of from 1 to 20 minutes.

18. (New) The method of claim 13, wherein said rubber composition is thermomechanically mixed in step (b) at a rubber temperature in a range of from 140°C to 190°C for a mixing time of from 1 to 20 minutes.

19. (New) A tire according to claim 1, wherein said at least one component is a tread.

20. (New) A tire according to claim 7, wherein said filler comprises primary particles of silica particles having a diameter in a range of 5 to 25 nanometer which at least partially form clusters or aggregates having a diameter in a range of from 40 nanometer to 500 nanometer.

21. (New) A tire according to claim 7, wherein said rubber containing olefinic unsaturation is selected from the group consisting of natural rubber, neoprene, polyisoprene, butyl rubber, halobutyl rubber, polybutadiene, styrene-butadiene copolymer, styrene/isoprene/butadiene rubber, methyl methacrylate-butadiene copolymer, isoprene-styrene copolymer, methyl methacrylate-isoprene copolymer, acrylonitrile-isoprene copolymer, acrylonitrile-butadiene copolymer, EPDM, silicon-coupled star-branched polymers, tin-coupled star-branched polymers and mixtures thereof.

22. (New) A tire according to claim 7, wherein said rubber composition comprises at least one additional diene-based elastomer.

23. (New) A tire according to claim 7, wherein said at least one component is a tread.